

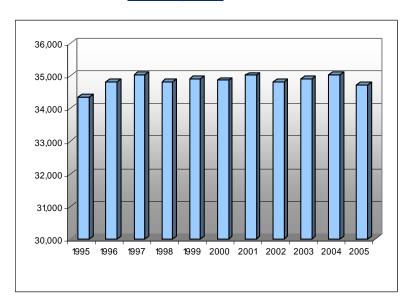
LATAH COUNTY PROFILE

Prepared by Doug Tweedy, Regional Labor Economist, Idaho Commerce & Labor 1158 Idaho Street, Lewiston, Idaho 83501 — (208) 799-5000, ext. 3511 E-Mail: dtweedy@cl.idaho.gov — Labor Market Information website: cl.idaho.gov/Imi

June 2006

Population

During the 1990's, population in Latah County increased slighthly to 35,182 in 2001. Between July 1, 2004 and July 1, 2005, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates a population decrease of 322 to 34,714 for Latah County. New registrations for driver's licenses and job registrations at the Moscow Job Service indicate that 94 percent of the few people that did move to Latah County are from other parts of the United States and other areas of Idaho, while six percent are from other countries. With this decrease in population, Latah County ranked 41st out of 44 Idaho counties in population growth for 2005.

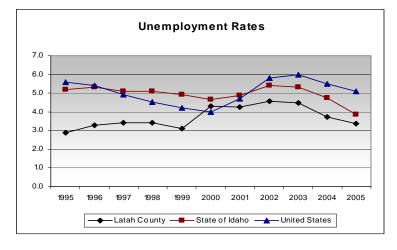


Labor Force & Employment

Employment increased in 2005 because of growth in *Trade, Health Services, Leisure & Hospitality, electronic Manufacturing.* The University of Idaho (U of I), established in 1889, employs more than 39 percent of all workers in Latah County. The U of I's presence provides economic stability and insulates the county from national economic cycles. A significant economic indicator for Latah County is the size of the student population at the U of I. In 2005, student enrollment increased and is expected to increase through the year 2006. However, because of budget cutbacks, employment at the U of I is expected to continue to decrease in 2006.

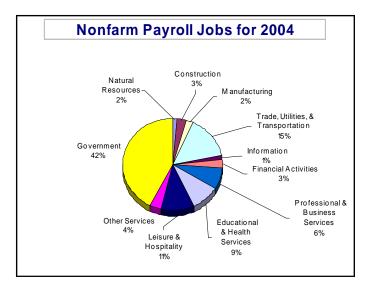
Employment in 2006 may continue to increase in *Manufacturing*, *Trade*, and *Health Services*. Future employment increases in *Manufacturing* will result as computer software and hardware companies, which are

Labor Force	May 2005	May 2006
Civilian Labor Force	18,251	17,231
Total Employment	17,660	16,726
Unemployed	591	504
Latah County % Unemployed	3.2	2.9
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.4
U.S. % Unemployed	5.1	4.7



currently located in the U of I's business incubator expand and leave the incubator for larger facilities. *Trade* and *Health Services* increases will follow increases in the student population at the U of I. Whenever the student population increases, so does the demand for workers in *Trade* and *Health Services*. *Construction*, also an indicator of economic health for the future, is estimated to increase in 2006. According to builders and planners, the number of jobs in both residential and nonresidential *Construction* will increase through 2007.

Labor Force	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Civilian Labor Force	16,160	14,942	14,750	15,002	14,886	17,560	17,313	16,423	16,111	17,975	18,303
Unemployment	467	491	500	514	459	752	737	750	724	672	619
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.1	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.5	3.7	3.4
Employment	15,693	14,451	14,250	14,488	14,427	16,808	16,577	15,673	15,386	17,303	17,684



Covered Employers

From 2003 to 2004, the number of employers in Latah County decreased by 34 to 1,017. The increase was primarily from small employers in the *Trade* industries. The number of large employers, those with 200 or more employees, remained about the same, but total employment decreased in these large employers. By industry, *Government* accounts for 43 percent of all jobs. Average wages for the county in 2004 increased by 2.4 percent from 2003. Unfortunately, the small increase in wages over the last 3 years did not keep up with the rate of inflation over the same period.

Major Employers	
Al - University Inn – Best Western	
Bennett Lumber Products	
Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Soci	ety
Latah County	
Moscow School District #281	
Wal-Mart Associates Inc.	
Winco Foods	
City of Moscow	
Gritman Medical Center	
Latah Health Services, Inc.	
Rosauers Super Markets	
University of Idaho	

Occupational Wages*	Average Wages
Accountants	\$17.52
Carpenters	\$14.60
Cashiers	\$7.14
Child Care Workers	\$7.00
Computer Techs	\$14.52
Dental & Health Care Assistants	\$10.21
Janitors	\$8.10
Guards	\$9.39
Nurses	\$18.89
Salespersons, Retail	\$7.25
Secretaries	\$10.03
Teachers	\$18.86
Waiters & Waitresses	\$5.68

^{*} Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Commerce & Labor website at **cl.idaho.gov/lmi.**

Covered Employment & Average Annual	1994		2003		2004		
Wages Per Job for 1994, 2003, & 2004	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	
	Employment	Wages	Employment	Wages	Employment	Wages	
Total Covered Wages	12,306	\$18,990	13,699	\$24,593	14,094	\$25,196	
Agriculture	283	\$28,427	266	\$35,915	286	\$37,492	
Mining	18	\$30,436	*	*	*	*	
Construction	413	\$19,794	385	\$22,895	446	\$23,746	
Manufacturing	390	\$26,293	354	\$34,903	373	\$36,398	
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	2,255	\$14,957	2,429	\$19,227	2,430	\$19,785	
Information	404	\$24,781	212	\$26,130	209	\$26,113	
Financial Activities	362	\$17,633	430	\$24,671	474	\$25,104	
Professional and Business Services	406	\$19,606	1,036	\$18,187	1,207	\$18,030	
Educational and Health Services	1,061	\$17,320	1,360	\$23,074	1,412	\$22,943	
Leisure and Hospitality	1,507	\$6,191	1,634	\$8,586	1,665	\$8,812	
Other Services	339	\$14,515	359	\$20,667	354	\$21,257	
Government	4,869	\$23,822	5,215	\$32,752	5,223	\$34,073	

Per Capita Income	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Latah County	\$17,296	\$18,258	\$18,271	\$19,528	\$20,160	\$21,248	\$22,907	\$23,674	\$23,489	\$25,223
State of Idaho	\$18,707	\$19,426	\$20,248	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,075	\$25,185	\$25,330	\$26,877
United States	\$22,172	\$23,076	\$24,175	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,845	\$30,575	\$30,804	\$31,472
Information provided by U.S. Ce	ensus Bureau									



